Private airlines to operate routes not touched by Indian Airlines

2184. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the facilities being extended to private airlines to operate in sectors which are not touched by Indian Airlines:

(b) whether it would be advantageous to the entire Civil Aviation sector to have air service in new areas and sectors of country; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to formulate an air policy in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) While granting permission to new operators, priority is given to those intending to operate on new sectors, particularly to regional airlines planning to cover one or two States intensively. Similarly, preference is given to import of relatively smaller aircraft, which are more suitable for connecting new stations. Further, nonscheduled operators can operate services liberally on sectors not covered by scheduled airlines.

Air links in Andhra Pradesh

2185. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any efforts to increase-private airlines to operate in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that commecially viable centres do not have air connections in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to have air links in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines operates to Hyderabad and Vishakapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. Private operators are operating air services to/from Hyderabad, Vijaywada, Vishakapatnam. Scheduled domestic operators are free to operate to any of the stations open for scheduled operations.

Amount outstanding from G.S.A. to Air India

2186. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION ANDTOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many G.S.A. (General Sales Agencies) have been given by Air India outside the countries;

(b) the names of Air India's G.S.A.'s all over the World;

(c) how many G.S.A. agreements have been cancelled due to defaults by G.S.A. during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95; and

(d) what is the total amount outstanding from the G.S.A.'s to Air India who have defaulted in payment and Action taken to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA TION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) At present, Air India has a total of 74 GSAs outside India. Out of the above, 41 are airline parties and 33 are private parties. List of these GSAs is annexed as a statement *(see* below).

(c) No GSA agreement has been cancelled due to defaults, however, one GSA, relinquished the agency in 1994.

(d) Only one GSA, located in Saudia Arabia has been delaying payments beyond the credit period permitted and the amount due from this agent as on date is around SAR 8.8 million equivalent to Rs. 7.45 crores. Air India is taking countinuous follow up action for realising the amounts due.

Statement

Names ofG.S.A.s of Air India abroad

PRIVATE PARTIES

S.No	*Name of GSA*
1.	M/s SIMA International Airlines Services
2.	R. Bajada Enterprises Ltd. (P)
3.	Air Borne Co. Ltd. (P)
4.	M/s Open Sari (P)
5.	M/s Gimvale Ltd. (Welcome Travels)
6.	M/s Travel Services (SEY) Ltd.
7.	Chalais Holdings(Canada) Ltd.